GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2513
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2004
PRODUCTION OF AGRICULTURE COMMODITIES
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) Whether the production of certain agriculture commodities is still below than their requirement in the country ;

(b) If so, the details of such commodities alongwith the break-up of the percentage of deficiency;

(c) Whether the Government has set any time limit to augment their production to meet their requirement in the country; and

(d) If so, the details thereof and the reasons for their under production?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI KANTI LAL BHURIA)

(a): Yes, Sir. The production of some agriculture commodities is below their requirement in the country.

(b): In the case of such commodities, the gap between domestic production and demand is met by imports. Import of pulses, edible oils and cotton constitutes bulk of the imports of agricultural commodities. The quantity of imports which reflects deficiency in production viz-a-viz requirement is given below:

Commodity	April 03-March 04		(Quantity in lakh	
	Production	Import	Requirement	tonnes) Import as % of requirement
1	2	3	4 (2+3)	5
Pulses	152.30	15.50	167.80	9.24
Edible oils	70.00	52.94	122.94	43.06
Cotton	23.44	0.86	24.30	3.54

In cases of pulses and cotton, the figures represent net imports. However, in the case of edible oils export figure is negligible.

(c)&(d): In order to increase the production of oilseeds and pulses the Government is implementing a Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Integrated Scheme for Oilseeds, Pulses, Oil Palm and Maize (ISOPOM) in 14 major oilseeds and pulses growing States. Under this scheme assistance is provided for purchase of breeder seed, production of foundation seed, production and distribution of certified seed, distribution of seed, distribution of plant protection chemical etc. In order to disseminate information on improved production technologies amongst the farmers, block demonstrations and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) demonstrations are organized through State Department of Agriculture and Front Line Demonstrations through Indian Council of Agricultural Research. In view of lower yield & poorer lint quality of cotton as compared to many other countries, the Government is implementing Centrally Sponsored Scheme of Technology Mission on Cotton (TMC) which became operational in 2000-2001. The TMC is being implemented during 2004-05 in 13 States viz. Andhra Pradesh, Gujarat, Haryana, Karaataka, Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Orissa, Punjab, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, West Bengal and Tripura.The aim of the mission is to increase the production, productivity & improve the quality of cotton. This is proposed to be achieved through the implementation of Technology Mission on Cotton by integrating various aspects of cotton viz. research, extension/ development for production, development of market infrastructure/yards & modernization of ginning/pressing factories in mission-mode approach.